

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1309

By Fitzhugh

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Jerry W. Little of Ripley.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Jerry W. Little; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Little was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Little was born in Madison County on November 14, 1948; he was the son of Mildred "Mem" Mills Brasher and the stepson of John B. Brasher; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Little was a 1966 graduate of South Side High School and a 1968 graduate of Jackson State Community College; he earned his Bachelor of Education degree from Union University in 1970 and his master's degree in school counseling and guidance from Memphis State University in 1975; and

WHEREAS, for thirty years, Mr. Little served with acumen and alacrity as a school teacher, administrator, and director, in which positions he earned the respect of his colleagues and students alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, after retiring, Jerry Little began a second career as a probation officer in Lauderdale and Crockett counties and Milan, where he served on the Board of the Drug Court; and

WHEREAS, a sports enthusiast who was dedicated to his community, Mr. Little coached baseball and peewee football in the 1970s and summer league T-ball and softball in the 1980s and 1990s; he served as coach and referee for Ripley's youth soccer program and as head umpire for Dixie Youth Softball; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Little was the on-air announcer for Ripley High School football and baseball games on WTRB radio; he was also a member and past president of the Ripley Rotary Club, a former Mason, and a yearly participant in the Relay for Life event; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, Mr. Little became a member of the West Tennessee Emmaus Community, where he served on several walks; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Little was an active and devout member of the Ripley First United Methodist Church, which he served faithfully for many years as a member of the United Methodist Men group, a Sunday school teacher for the Men's Comeback Class, and a volunteer for the "Lunch With Us" program; and

WHEREAS, he was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Little will be fondly remembered by his loving wife of forty-five years, Louanne Little; his daughter, Erin Rinay Tims; his son-in-law, Josh Tims; his sisters-in-law, Dotty Little, Kathy Walker, and Leigh Stone; and his brothers-in-law, Mike Johnson and Scott Stone; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his parents, Mr. Little was preceded in death by his grandparents, P.D. and Mary Bethel Maddox Mills, Sr.; his brothers, Paul Little, Sr., and Johnny Walker; and his mother-in-law, Virginia Rains; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Little leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Jerry W. Little, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Little.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.